

the Prince resolved to bring 9,000 foot and 4,000 horse and dragoons, and the statement is approximately correct.¹

With a force not much more than half that which James assembled at Salisbury, William did not hesitate to march against him. By a statement of the exact figures, Macaulay would have better explained the campaign, and enhanced the merit of William's achievement.

Again a reader of the History is surprised and somewhat disagreeably impressed by what appears to be the inactivity of William's government during the first six months of his reign. He accepted the crown on February 13, 1689, but Londonderry was not relieved till July and Schomberg did not land in Ireland till August. The complaints of the Whigs against William's government and their attacks on the minister who was held responsible for this delay, seem at first sight justifiable. But Macaulay does not explain the military situation properly. Immediately after his accession William had been obliged to send back to Holland most of the Dutch troops he had brought with him.² They were urgently needed for the defence of their own country against the French. Macaulay does not mention this. He explains that ' France had declared war against the States General : and the States General had consequently demanded from the King of England those

¹ Burnet, *Own Time*, i. There is a list of the regiments and their strength given in a contemporary broadside printed in the *Sorners Tracts*, ix. 270. Their nominal strength was 14,352 (3,660 horse and 10,692 foot), their real strength apparently about 12,000. See also Abel Boyer, *History of King William the Third* (3 vols. ; 1702-3), i. 227.

~ Narcissus Luttrell, *A Brief Historical Relation of State Affairs* (6 vols. ; 1857)> i- 503-4, 507^9. See also P. L. Müller, *Wilhelm III von Oranien und Georg Friedrich von Waldeck* (2 vols.; 1873, 1880), ii. 126-7, 143, 147, 164. According to Mr. Fortescue four battalions of guards and sbc of the Hne were sent. By treaty 10,000 men should have been sent, but the regiments were not up to their proper strength. *History of the British Army*, i. 334.